

Buy Quality Poultry with Confidence

These emblems signify that the poultry has been examined and certified to the quality indicated by a U.S. Department of Agriculture grader.



Grade A is the highest grade available.

Grade A whole carcasses and parts:

- are fully fleshed and meaty.
- have normal conformation and shape.
- are free of disjointed or broken bones.
- are free of feathers.
- are free of exposed flesh and discolorations.



Grade A boneless-skinless poultry products:

- are free of bone, cartilage, tendons, bruises, blood clots, and other discolorations.

Boneless-skinless products shown: (L) Whole breast, breast halves, and tenderloins; (R) Thigh and drum.



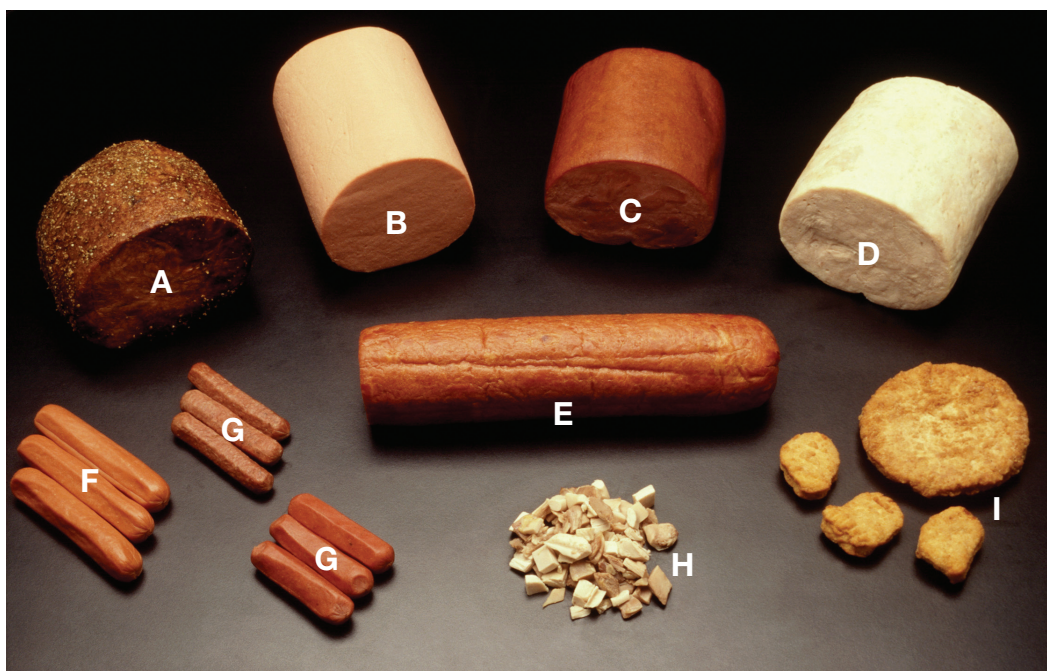
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Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Programs

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Certification of Quality Through Contract Acceptance

Poultry Programs provides certification services, called Contract Acceptance services, for volume food buyers. With the continuing trend toward value-added, further-processed poultry products, detailed specifications are necessary to ensure that products possess the attributes and requirements desired by commercial food service operators, food retailers, manufacturers, brokers, wholesalers, and exporters. Explicit contract specifications may include:

- Product formulation
- Processing and fabrication
- Portion control
- Net weight
- Laboratory analysis
- Packing
- Packaging
- Storage
- Transportation
- Temperature



Products examined, accepted, and certified by USDA graders are identified with the contract compliance stamp below:



*The further-processed poultry products pictured above are: Turkey: **A**-pastrami, **B**-bologna, **C**-ham, **D**-breast roll, **E**-Canadian bacon, **F**-frankfurters, **G**-sausage links. Chicken: **H**-cooked diced, **I**-batter/breaded cooked patties and nuggets.*

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